



**Governor's Advisory Council
To The Division of Developmental Disabilities**

September 20, 2018

1056 Governor's Avenue
Dover, DE

Council Members:

Terri Hancharick, Chair
Tim Brooks
Tom Rust
Gail Womble, Phone
Stan Trier
Angela Sipple

Staff Members:

Marie Nonnenmacher, Director
Marissa Catalon, Deputy Director
Katie Howe
Terry Macy
Lynda Lord
Jim Dickinson
Brian Manubay
Stacy Watkins
Myleena Ortiz-Rivera, Minutes

Guests Present:

Vivia Turner, CERTS

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Council members reviewed and approved the minutes from the July 2018 meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Moment of Silence in Honor of Jamie Wolfe

The group shared special moments with everyone about Jamie and observed a moment of silence in her honor.

OBRA Monthly Report

DDDS provided a copy of the monthly OBRA report for review by the GAC. The council previously requested data showing the ages of individuals admitted to a nursing facility and identified as having a developmental disability.

OBRA legislation enacted in 1987 requires all individuals applying for entrance to a nursing facility to undergo review by the state DD authority or mental health authority if the individual is suspected to have a developmental disability or a mental illness. Prior to this legislation, individuals were admitted to nursing facilities without any recognition that the NF was not equipped to meet their specialized needs related to their IDD or SPMI. The legislation mandated a screening process called PASRR (Preadmission

Screening and Resident Review) to determine if an individual has an intellectual disability or mental illness so that they can receive “specialized services” related to their disability.

The OBRA monthly report provides the following information:

- Age of individual
- Residence of individual
- Special services received by individual
- Name of individual's Day-Habilitation program

Harmony Incident Management System

A new incident management system was implemented on August 1st. This system records all “reportable incidents” and provider compliance survey results. The division will use this system to generate management reports on a routine basis.

Budget Update

DDDS submitted the new the door opener to DMS. DMS accepted the proposal without cuts, but requested an addition. The Division is considering a rate increase for Shared Living and will submit the budget request in early October with executive hearing in mid to late November.

Rate Rebasing Study

DDDS has engaged a consulting firm to conduct a rebasing effort for the direct support professional rates. The last rebase occurred in 2014.

A data request for general ledger information was sent to providers on August 28 asking for data to be submitted by September 10. Not all providers understood the request. DDDS and our rate consultant have been following up with providers to ensure that we receive the requested data. The kick-off meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2018.

The following components are used to construct rates:

- Direct Support Wage
- Employment Related Expenses (payroll, taxes, PTO)
- Program Indirect (program supervision and management)
- General and Administrative Expenses

Aging in Place Taskforce

Four meetings have been scheduled with providers beginning October 4th to make sure that they are clear what their role and responsibilities are when hospice agency is elected for a DDDS consumer living in a provider-managed residential setting.

DDDS will develop a written set of guidelines for providers on this topic.

Lifespan Waiver

DDDS is in the final year of the current 5-year renewal period for the Lifespan Waiver. The waiver must be renewed before July 1, 2019. Because CMS requires a minimum 90-day review, we must submit it by

no later than March 31 after a public comment process. We plan to submit it in early 2019 to give CMS more than 90 days to review.

DDDS has been working on a waiver amendment ahead of the renewal to add Private Duty Nursing. The purpose of the amendment is to allow current providers of Residential Habilitation to employ their own nurses and receive proper compensation, along with the ability to claim and bill for providing that level of service to the individuals they support.

Work to modify the Medicaid claims processing system was implemented in August 2018. Prior to that time, waiver members living at home could not be identified in the system and new providers could not enroll nor could existing providers bill for the new services under the Lifespan Waiver. A new assignment plan (called LSFPN) was created to enable waiver members to be identified. DDDS is working with DMMA to enroll these individuals using the newly enabled system. Individuals should be able to start receiving the new waiver services shortly.

Staffing Update

DDDS has hired Darlene Sturgeon as the new Chief of Administration for OBSS. She starts with the Division on October 15th.

Rick Kosmalski's last day with DDDS as the Manager of Family Engagement was September 30, 2018. Jennifer Tozer has been hired into this role and will begin on October 1st.

DDDS has actively added more positions to Community Services. These positions are designed to support clients who live at home.

Other Business/Announcements

A Cerebral Palsy clinic at the Center for Special Healthcare Needs opened on September 19th. Dr. Miller now guides the center.

Future Meetings

October 18, 2018	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
November 15, 2018	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
December 20, 2018 (Pending)	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
January 17, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
February 21, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
March 21, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
April 18, 2019 (Retreat)	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
May 16, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
June 20, 2019	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.